

In the Drawings:

Please cancel Figure 6. A replacement drawing sheet is attached.

Please delete Paragraph [0013] which refers to Figure 6.

Please replace Paragraph [0014] as follows:

[0014] FIGURE 6 ~~FIGURE 7~~ is a detail illustration of a side view illustration of the portion of the detector assembly illustrated in Figure 2, the alternate embodiment illustrating a simple mirror image formation.

REMARKS**Drawings**

The drawings were rejected by the Examiner on several bases. The Drawings have been amended in order to address each of these rejections.

Specification

The Specification has been amended to address several informalities identified by the Examiner.

Claims Rejected by way of Tang

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections based on the Tang reference and requests reconsideration. The Examiner's position is that claiming "only a portion" is equivalent to a whole (the entire portion). The Applicant respectfully disagrees. A portion may include the entire portion, but "ONLY a portion" as claimed is only a portion of the depth (paragraph 17) and therefore cannot be "the entire portion". The Applicant concedes that Figure 6 is misleading as it appears as though the triangle portions proceed through the entire portion. The drawing has therefore been removed. The intent was for it to show small flat portions at either end which appear to have been minimized. This is evident from the very paragraph in the specification wherein it is reference (paragraph 17). There is No confusion in the wording of this paragraph or the claims that it is intended to only be a portion of the depth and not the entire depth. The claims limit the application not the drawings, and the claim and specification language are clear and unequivocal that "only a portion" rather than an "entire portion" is claimed. The Applicant has included an amendment to clarify this with the present office action. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

Claims rejected by way of Igarashi et al

The Examiner again rejects claims based on Igarashi et al. The Examiner asserts that Applicants arguments regarding what is a wall and what is a cap is immaterial as it is only the same assembly affected by orientation . The Applicant respectfully disagrees and requests reconsideration. If, by example, you roll your car onto its side... the roof

does not become the vehicle side... it is still the roof. This is because it is a defined structural entity without regard to orientation. Similarly, collimator sidewalls are not random structures, they are well defined structural entities. Turn a collimator sideways, and not only won't it function.... But its sidewalls will still be sidewalls not caps. It is inherent in collimators that their sidewalls be x-ray repellant. It is part and parcel of what a collimator is. Therefore, simply rotating Igarashi will fail to make the cap a sidewall, as the x-ray transparency makes it impossible for these structures to act as sidewalls regardless of orientation. Although the Applicant believes it is entirely unnecessary to explicitly include the limitation of "blocking x-ray transmission" to collimator sidewalls in the same way adding the limitation "transparent" to an automotive windshield (could it be one and be opaque?), the Applicant has none the less added such an amendment in the hopes of eliminating this argument. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

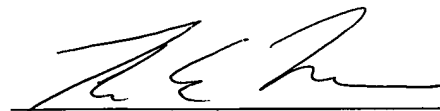
Claims rejected under 35 USC 103(a)

Finally the claims were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) with regards to Tang for claim 3 and Tang with Guida for claims 4 and 5. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and incorporates by reference the above traversals of Tang. The fact is, none of the cited references teach the use of multiple sidewalls having partial protrusions that mate to form a continuous shielding sidewall. Tang fails to teach even the most fundamental elements, the sidewall with out a shielding gap. The Applicant, therefore, requests reconsideration.

With this response, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections and objections of record have been overcome and that the case is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. E. Donohue', written over a horizontal line.

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Dated: May 30, 2006



"ANNOTATED MARKED UP DRAWINGS"

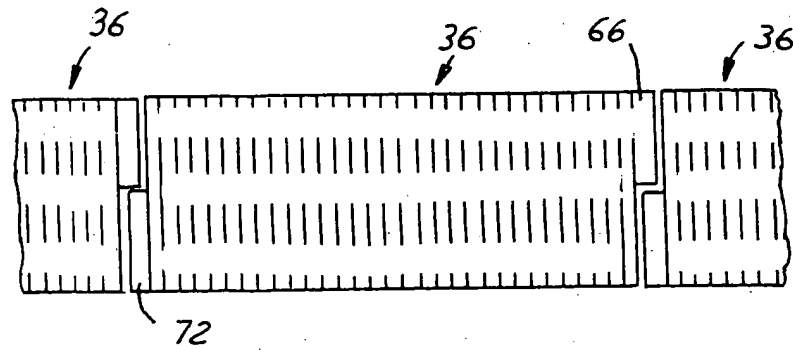


FIG. 4

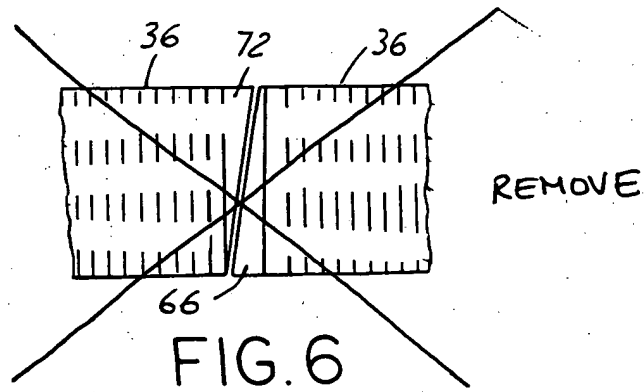


FIG. 6

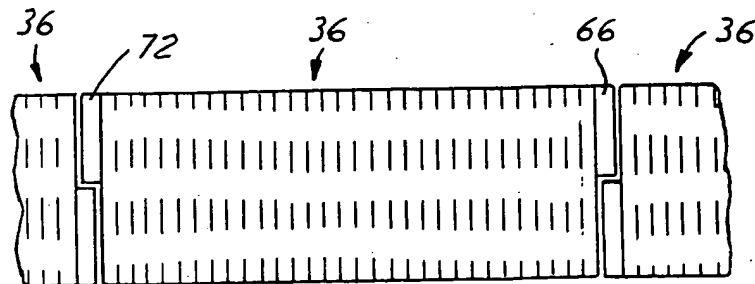


FIG. 6